



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 14, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended December 9 totaled 348,778, down 2.8 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 1.7 percent below the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 3.2 percent in the East and 2.2 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, grain loadings were up 4,215 cars (14.3 percent). Coal loadings were up 2,841 cars (2.1 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 5,248 cars (22.1 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment dropped 3,210 cars (14.0 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 49 weeks of 1989 totaled 16,410,115, down 1.3 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 123,877 trailers and/or containers for the week ended December 9, up 3.5 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 49 weeks of 1989 was 5,631,818 trailers and/or containers, 3.1 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended December 9 totaled 20.3 billion, 1.0 percent below the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 49 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 944.8 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9, 1989	COMPARISON WITH			
		SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	33,714	29,499	14.3 %	33,850	-.4 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,654	3,205	-17.2	2,745	-3.3
Metallic Ores	18,522	23,770	-22.1	20,247	-8.5
Coal	135,684	132,843	2.1	131,328	3.3
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,844	14,892	-7.0	14,157	-2.2
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,758	9,494	-7.8	9,810	-10.7
Grain Mill Products	10,220	10,782	-5.2	10,528	-2.9
Food & Kindred Products	9,260	9,257	.0	9,586	-3.4
Primary Forest Products	9,310	10,439	-10.8	9,250	.6
Lumber & Wood Products	6,018	6,761	-11.0	6,925	-13.1
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	9,737	10,164	-4.2	11,072	-12.1
Chemicals	27,765	27,482	1.0	29,821	-6.9
Petroleum Products	5,233	5,392	-2.9	5,363	-2.4
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,711	10,655	-8.9	10,343	-6.1
Coke	5,492	5,646	-2.7	6,103	-10.0
Metals & Products	8,552	8,954	-4.5	9,646	-11.3
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	19,756	22,966	-14.0	19,616	.7
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,462	9,380	-9.8	8,446	.2
All Other Carloads	6,086	7,177	-15.2	6,039	.8
Total	348,778	358,758	-2.8 %	354,875	-1.7 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 9, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 49 WEEKS ENDING DECEMBER 9, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	348,778	358,758	-2.8 %	16,410,115	16,622,616	-1.3 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	73,866	72,023	2.6	3,270,642	3,295,958	-.8
Containers	50,011	47,612	5.0	2,361,176	2,167,907	8.9
Total	123,877	119,635	3.5	5,631,818	5,463,865	3.1
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	20.3	20.5	-1.0 %	944.8	947.0	-2 %